

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 2, 4 thru 11, 13 thru 17, 19 and 20, and add claim 21, as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an asynchronous transfer mode
2 switch, comprising the steps of:
3 registering an address of an asynchronous transfer mode terminal using an interim
4 local management interface protocol;
5 determining when said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is stable by subtracting
6 a last disconnect time from a current time to obtain a time value, and comparing the time
7 value to a preset maximum tolerant time; and
8 when said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is determined to be not stable, not
9 applying a private network-to-network interface protocol in said asynchronous transfer mode
10 switch.

1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, said method ~~[[of]]~~ for controlling
2 said asynchronous transfer mode switch ~~corresponding to~~ comprising a method for restricting
3 overflowing on said private network-to-network interface in said asynchronous transfer
4 mode switch.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, when
2 [[the]] said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is determined to be stable, of applying said
3 private network-to-network interface protocol.

1 5. (Currently Amended) A method for restricting overflowing in an asynchronous
2 transfer mode switch, comprising the steps of:

3 when registering an address of an asynchronous transfer mode terminal ~~through~~ using
4 an interim local management interface protocol, determining when a data table indicates that
5 said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is not stable;

6 when there is an address of said asynchronous transfer mode terminal registered in
7 said data table, registering a current time in a last connect time field of said data table;

8 comparing a first time value, determined by subtracting a last disconnect time from
9 a current time, with a second time value, said second time value corresponding to a preset
10 maximum tolerant time, said comparing being performed to identify when said asynchronous
11 transfer mode terminal is stable; and

12 when said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is not stable, not applying a private
13 network-to-network interface protocol.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step, when
2 said first time value is less than said second time value, of determining that said
3 asynchronous transfer mode terminal ~~being determined to be~~ is not stable.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of
2 applying said private network-to-network interface protocol when said asynchronous transfer
3 mode terminal is determined to be stable.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:
2 when a timer event is generated, ~~said timer event being of said asynchronous transfer~~
3 ~~mode terminal detected as being not stable~~, selecting a predetermined entry in said data table
4 to determine when said selected asynchronous transfer mode terminal is stable, said timer
5 event comprising detecting that said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is not stable; and
6 applying a private network-to-network interface protocol when said asynchronous
7 transfer mode terminal becomes stable.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an asynchronous transfer mode
2 switch, comprising the steps of:

3 detecting whether an asynchronous transfer mode address corresponding to an
4 asynchronous transfer mode terminal is stored in a data table, said data table including a
5 plurality of address fields, last connect time fields, and last disconnect time fields, each one
6 of said address fields corresponding to a respective one of said last connect time fields and
7 a respective one of said last disconnect time fields;

8 when said asynchronous transfer mode address is not detected as being stored in said

9 data table, creating a new entry in said data table corresponding to said asynchronous transfer
10 mode terminal, said new entry having a new address field, a new last connect time field, and
11 a new last disconnect time field, ~~setting~~ said new address field being set in accordance with
12 said asynchronous transfer mode address, ~~setting~~ said new last connect time field being set
13 in accordance with a current time;

14 when said asynchronous transfer mode address is detected as being stored in said data
15 table, updating an existing last connect time field in accordance with a current time, said
16 existing last connect time field corresponding to said asynchronous transfer mode address;

17 determining whether a time value is larger than a predetermined maximum tolerant
18 time, said time value being equal to a first value subtracted from a second value, said first
19 value being stored in an identified last disconnect time field, said second value
20 corresponding to a current time, said identified last disconnect time field being stored in said
21 data table and corresponding to said asynchronous transfer mode address; and

22 when said time value is not larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
23 not applying a private network-to-network interface protocol in said asynchronous transfer
24 mode switch.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 updating said identified last disconnect time field to be equal to a predetermined value, and
4 applying a private network-to-network interface protocol in said asynchronous transfer mode

5 switch.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of
2 identifying said existing last connect time field corresponding to said asynchronous transfer
3 mode address.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 10, said identified last connect time field
2 being selected from among said new last connect time field and said updated existing last
3 connect time field.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is not larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 detecting that said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is not stable.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 detecting that said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is stable.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of:
2 registering an address corresponding to said asynchronous transfer mode terminal
3 using an interim local management interface protocol.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of
2 registering an address corresponding to said asynchronous transfer mode terminal using an
3 interim local management interface protocol.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 updating said identified last disconnect time field to be equal to a predetermined value, and
4 applying a private network-to-network interface protocol in said asynchronous transfer mode
5 switch.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 9, said identified last connect time field
2 being selected from among said new last connect time field and said updated existing last
3 connect time field.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is not larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 waiting for said asynchronous transfer mode terminal to become stable, and not updating said
4 identified last connect time field to be equal to a predetermined value.

1 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

2 when said time value is larger than said predetermined maximum tolerant time,
3 applying a private network-to-network interface protocol in said asynchronous transfer mode
4 switch.

1 21. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 when said time value is not longer than said preset maximum tolerant time,
3 determining that said asynchronous transfer mode terminal is not stable.